

In the specification:

Insert the paper copy of the Sequence Listing filed herewith following page 45.

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 4 as follows:

Fig. 1 depicts a novel strategy for producing desired RNA molecules in cells through RNA splicing. The exemplary sequence includes a donor site containing AG GTAAGAGT, a multiple restriction site 1 containing CGATCG, a multiple restriction site 2 containing ACGCGT, a branch point containing TACTAAC, a TGGTACC sequence, a poly-pyrimidine tract containing TCTTC(T)₁₀ (SEQ ID NO:29), and an acceptor site GATATCCTGCAG GC (SEQ ID NO:30).

Amend the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 1 as follows:

As shown in Fig. 1, DNA templates for splicing-competent introns (SpRNAi) were synthesized and inserted into an intron-free red fluorescin gene (rGFP) that was mutated from the HcRed1 chromoprotein of *Heteractis crispa*. Since the inserted intron disrupted the functional fluorescin structure of the rGFP protein, occurrence of intron splicing and rGFP-mRNA maturation was indicated by the reappearance of red fluorescent light emission at the 570-nm wavelength in a transfected cell. Construction of SpRNAi was based on the natural structure of a pre-messenger RNA intron, consisting of spliceosome-dependent nucleotide components, such as donor and acceptor splicing sites in both ends for precise cleavage, branch point domain for splicing recognition, poly-pyrimidine tract for spliceosome interaction, linkers for connection of each major components and some artificially added multiple restriction/cloning sites for cloning of inserts. Based on prior studies, the donor splicing site is an oligonucleotide sequence either containing or homologous to 5'-exon-AG-(splicing point)-GTA(A/-)GAG(G/T)-3' (SEQ ID NO:24), e.g., 5'-AG GTAAGAGGAT-3' (SEQ ID NO:25), 5'-AG GTAAGAGT-3' (SEQ ID NO:26), 5'-AG GTAGAGT-3', 5'-AG GTAAGT-3' and so on. The acceptor splicing site is an oligonucleotide sequence either containing or homologous to 5'-